

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wednesday 13th December 2023

Attendance

Regular attendance at school is significant to a child's educational development and progress. When a child's attendance falls to 90% or below it is classed as persistent absence. We hope that by working together, attendance will improve and children will achieve fully in school. The school's policy for attendance is available on the school [website](#). We reward good attendance each week and are aiming for at least 96%.

Our Reception class had the highest attendance for the third week in a row with **98.6%**. Other classes attendance was follows: **Y5 - 96.7%, Y2 - 95.4%, Y6 - 92.7%, Y4 - 92.6%, Y1 - 91.7%, N - 90.4%, Y3 - 87.3%**.

The classes in **green** are above our target of **96%** and those in **red** are below, some significantly below. We will be targeting those with poor attendance. *Parents can notify school of their child's absence through the School Spider App. You will need to log into School Spider to do this, if you need help logging in, please let school know.*
If you are unable to call school, e.g no credit on your phone, please use School Spider.

Be in to win!

Thank you to all families who supported the 'Be in to Win' event for November. Last November we had 82 children in for the whole month. This November we had **147!** A staggering improvement, so well done everyone! It was so successful we are trying again this month – the children are really keen to earn themselves a selection box on the last day of term.

Same rules apply: **Every child** who is **in school** for the **whole of December** will receive a **selection box on the last day of term – 22nd December**. They **MUST** be in school every day for both morning and afternoon sessions to win the advent calendar – not off with a valid reason, but in every day. We will see if we can get as many children as possible to attend school every day this month. If your child has an appointment they must come to school prior to present and get their mark and return to school straight after.

PFA Mufti Day

We raised £140.00 for Mufti day. Thank you – your support is greatly appreciated.

Carol Singing

Our whole school will be singing at Marian Square tomorrow morning from 10.00AM, weather permitting. We do hope you can come along and join us.

Christmas Lunch

Our Christmas lunch is 19.12.23, and all children are welcome to join in. The menu is as follows:



*Roast Turkey with pigs in blankets, stuffing, sprouts, vegetables, potatoes and
gravy
followed by
Cakes made by Helaine*



Envelopes were sent home last Wednesday for children in Y3 - 6. If you would like your child to join in, please send payment into to school before 19.12.23.

Mentor Lunch

Our Mentor Lunch takes place on 20.12.23, envelopes were sent home to all children in Year 3 – 6 last Wednesday. Please return your envelope with payment to school as soon as possible. Please note that there is no facility for packed lunch on this day.

School Meal Price Increase from January 2024

Unfortunately, Sefton have miscalculated their costs and are now claiming back over £6,000 which we have not budgeted for. As you can imagine we are as annoyed and as disappointed as you are about the increase in costs and will be doing all we can to fight this. However, it does mean we will have to increase the school meal costs again from 8th January 2024 to £2.50 per day. I am appalled by Sefton catering's incompetence but we are now left with over £6,000 which they are claiming back from us.

Swimming in January 2024

Year 3 will swim every day from our first day, Monday 8th January until Thursday 11th January and then the same the following week Monday 15th to Thursday 18th January. Swimming kit information can be found [here](#).

Year 4 will continue to swim each Wednesday from 10th January until Wednesday 7th February 2024 inclusive.

Yoga After School Club 4.15PM Session

Yoga starts the **first week back in the new year – 9th January 2024**. As the older children do not start their yoga class until 4.15pm and there are no other clubs available until week commencing 15th January, we will allow them to join in with the younger children at 3.15PM or stay and read in a classroom for an hour. After the first week the children must be in another club or go home and come back as all the staff will be busy taking their own after school clubs.

After School Clubs January 2024

Attached to the newsletter last week were details of clubs being offered for January 2024. This information can also be found on our [website](#).

There are two types of clubs.

- Clubs that we have received funding for. Clubs that we have received funding for will start the first week back in January 2024 (W/C 08.01.24) when school reopens. Those clubs will be: **Gymnastics (Monday), Yoga (Tuesday), Multisports (Wed, Thurs and Friday)**
- Clubs that are funded by school. These clubs commence w/c 15.01.24

If you would like to request a place for your child in the club, you can do so by sending an [email](#).

Courageous Advocacy/ Making Positive Change

Our vision leaders are looking to support St. Oswald's Foodbank by taking part in the Reverse Advent Calendar event. They are going to provide each class with a box for food donations. Then on Thursday 21st December they aim to deliver 8 hampers to the Foodbank with all the generous donations that are sent in. Every child taking part will pick a number (see the advent calendar below) and on that day can bring in a tin/packet to donate. In return they will receive a raffle ticket. On the 21st December a ticket will be selected and the person will win a treat for their class.

South Sefton foodbank **Reverse ADVENT CALENDAR**

Please, bring your donations to
St. Leonard's Youth & Community Centre, 60 Peel Road, L20 4RW
or Waterloo Town Hall, 26 Great Georges Road, L22 1RD
by 4th December 2020

1 TINNED VEGETABLES						
2 TINNED POTATOES	3 TINNED TOMATOES	4 TINNED FRUIT	5 INSTANT MASH	6 INSTANT NOODLES	7 INSTANT COFFEE	8 TINNED RICE PUDDING
9 TINNED TUNA	10 BISCUITS	11 LONG LIFE JUICE	12 TINNED RICE PUDDING	13 INSTANT MASH	14 FESTIVE BISCUITS	15 CHOCOLATE ADVENT CALENDAR
16 TINNED SALMON	17 JAM	18 TINNED HAM	19 SELECTION BOX	20 TINNED POTATOES	21 TOILET PAPER	22 TINNED FRUIT
23 TINNED MEAT	24 TINNED RICE PUDDING	25 TINNED TOMATOES	26 INSTANT NOODLES	27 JAM	28 TOILETRIES	29 INSTANT COFFEE
30 CRACKERS	How it works: 1. Grab a box and a marker 2. Each day place the specified item in the box		3. Tick it off on your Reverse Advent Calendar 4. Once you are done, bring the box to the foodbank		Why do it in November? It takes time to get the donations processed, if you were to donate in late December, they would only reach our Clients in the New Year.	

Children's University Winter Challenge

Details of the winter holiday challenge are attached to the newsletter. Children can collect extra Children's University credits during the Christmas holiday by completing this challenge. Each activity is worth 1 credit.

Send evidence of your activity to this [email](#). This could be a photograph, video, a work sheet, or writing about what you did. Remember to include your name and the name of our school in your email!

Dates for Next Year

For school term dates and upcoming events please see the school calendar on our [website](#).

December

- 14th – Carol singing 10am in Marian Square. 2nd Performance 1.30pm
15th – Making Day for whole school
10. 30am Nursery Stay N' Play.
2.15pm Reception Stay N' Play
19th – Christmas dinner being served
20th - Christmas Party Day – all to wear party clothes (none uniform)
9.15am – Puppet Show, Mentor Lunch and games afternoon
21st – Starry Night - Nativity for whole school
22nd – 9.15am – End of term service
TT Rockstars competition for KS2
Finish at 2.00pm.

January

- 8th All back to school at the usual time.
Year 3 swimming every morning Monday – Thursday for the first two weeks
9th Year 3 & 4 start gymnastics in the afternoons every Tuesday for this half term – all children need their PE kits in school.
10 Year 4 continue to swim each Wednesday afternoon for this half term.
15th Mini church for EYFS – 11.15am at church.
16th Year 5 & 6 team to Sports Hall athletics
17th 10.00am – Year 1 to Year 6 Communion at church – all welcome.
19th Year 2 to Jodrell Bank – wrap up warm!
26th TT Rockstars competition for KS2.

Christian Values

This month's Christian Value is **Compassion**

"The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion." **Psalms 116:5**



Article 31

Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.



A Prayer for our School

*This is our school,
Let peace dwell here,
let peace begin with me.
Let the room be full of contentment
Let love abide here
Love of human kind, love of life itself
And love of God*

*Let us remember that as many hands build a
house,
Many hearts build a school.
Amen*

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Murtagh
Headteacher

